ISTHMUS OF TEHUANTEPEC A FORGOTTEN SECTION IN PRESENT MEXICAN TROUBLES

President Wilson's Theories of Constitutional Government Will Find No Suffragette Bar in Tehuantepec, Says Charles M. Pepper—Panama Canal May Put Railroad That Cost \$35,000,000 Out of Business-May Also Render Almost Valueless Valuable Port Works - A Tehuantepec Poet.



EHUANTEPEC gotten section in the present Mexi-

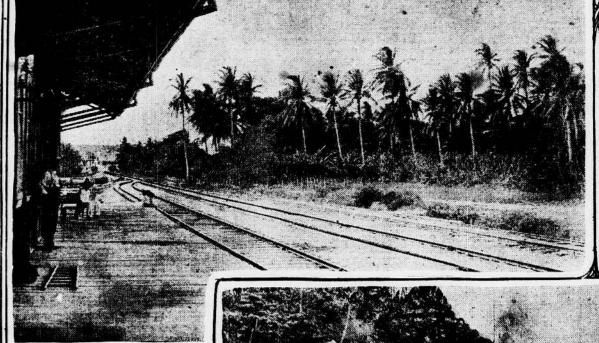
The isthmus is so far disconnected from the main current of revolutionary events that until recently its geographical existence has been ignored. Now there are signs that it expects to be heard from whenever peace comes to Mexico and the reconstruction of the country begins.

President Wilson's theories of constitutional government will find no suffragette

tional government will find no suffragette har in Tehuantepec such as may develop with the Indian women of other parts of Mexico. Women's rights have prevailed be of more account than the men, as they railway across the isthmus. But it was have been under the tribal customs for the jerkwater sort, and did not meet the needs of a real transportation line.

can troubles. Word occasionally, howthere. It shows that the isthmus, while RAILWAY STATION
TEHUANTEPEC overlooked in the general melce, is not, forgotten b a large model of his proposed ship rail-Zapata and Huerta.

Along in the eighties some rails were mmemorially there, and when it comes laid both from the Atlantic and the Pato laying the foundation for permanent cific side and a few years later the ends peace the Tehuana Indian women will were united, and there was actually a





TRAIN ON TEHUANTEPEC RAILROAD

most from the time of Cortez. In the middle of the last century when Americans built the railway across the Isthmus of Panama another group of Americans obtained concessions from the Mexican obtained concessions from the M

bus of Panama another group of American obtained concessions from the Mexico obligations of Teluantepec. Important explorations were made for the American Navy Department under the direction of Admiral Schufeldt, and for a time the question was whether a canal or a railway was the more feasible. Ultimately the concessions was annulled.

Capt. James B. Eads. after his success in building the Mississippi levees, became interested in the Tehuantepec route and worked out his plans for a ship railway. Bas out 125 miles and many supporters among publicmen who had faith in him as an engineer, and some capitalists were enlisted in the project. A good many years ago

Featurates the tribal customs for centuries.

Tehuantepee has other worries than the revolutionary disturbances, and these are what cause the disquiet over the furner wand give a shadowy basis to the rumors of a separatist movement. The cause the disquiet of transportation.

The Panama canal may put the costly. The Panama canal may put the costly Tehuantepee railway practically out the personnent would be expensive fort works at Salina, Cruz, on the Pacilic, and at Cotaacoalcas or Port Werkson on the Atlantic. It is a possibility and the government went into business, and the canal will materially seer thaining. That the canal will materially seer thaining the Panama almost valueless the expensive fort works at Salina Cruz, on the Pacilic, and at Cotaacoalcas or Port Werkson on the Atlantic. It is a possibility and the government went into a continuous properties. The canal will materially seer thaining the Panama almost the continuous properties. The canal will materially seer thaining the Panama canal may put the costly. The Panama canal may put the costly are propertied to the properties the properties the properties that the properties that the review of the Panama canal may put the costly. The Panama canal may put the costly are propertied to the properties the properties the properties the properties the properties that the properties the properties that the properties that the properties the properties the properties the properties the properties that the revolution of the properties to the underlying and the port works at Salina Cruz, shiped the properties the properties the properties the properties the properties to the properties the properties to

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me ago. The Teluantepec obligations are one of the many reasons which British diplomacy has for exerting itself to secure a stable and orderly government in Mexico.

NATIVE LIFE ON THE ISTHMUS OF TEHUANTEPEC

rabber plantations proved financial successes, and the title to most of them passed out of the hands of the Americans. It is doubtful now whether there is much American money tied up in rubber plantations.

Large tracts of timber lands were held a few years ago by northwestern capitalists who had made money out of lumber. Some of these investments may still be in the bands of the original owners.

At one time some American money was invested in the railway line known as the Pan-American, which branches off from the Tehuantepec railway at San ***

be in the hands of the original owners.

At one time some American which branches of the Pan-American, which branches of from the Tehnanteger callway at San Geronimo and runs down to the border of Guatermala. The some and the part of the Mexican government. Later and the proof of Salima Cruz took away the completed. These bonds were guaranteed by the Mexican government. Later and the proof of Salima Cruz took away the completed of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the completed of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the completed of money by the transactive of the special importance which it one control of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the completed of money by the transactive of the special importance which it one control of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the completed of money by the transactive of the special importance which it one control of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the completed of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the proof of Salima Cruz took away the cowners to the proof of Salima Cruz took away the complete of the p

men having been killed in the wars against the domination of the Plaz government. It is true that a good many of the Indians were slaughtered government. It is true that a good many of the Indians were slaughtered before the central authority was recognized but the disproportion between the sexes is not very large. The position of the men is really an inheritance of old tribal custom. Since so little work is required of them the men accept their status quite philosophically. When they become too lazy, or when another man proves more attractive, the Tehuana weenen divorce their husbands with little ceremony. The headgear of the women, the "huipile," as it is called is a lamp-shaped creation which rivals anything that a Parisian milliner could concoct Sometimes it is worn in the market place, but oftener on the street and during ceremonial occasions.

Tehuantepec has, or used to have, its local celebrity. This celebrity was a poet, and a mad poet at that. I have the card which he gave me some years ago—"A. Delint G." In addition to being a poet. Senor Delint was a monopolist, for he controlled the bootblacking privilege of the town. Not that he blacked boots himself. He was attended by his squire, a sturdy boy, who performed the manual labor. Himself attired in a high peaked hat and a flowing cloak, after the manner of a Spanish cavalier of the seventeenth century, the poet would go from place to place in the performance of his public functions. The streets of Tehuantepec are very sandy and no one ever gets from the railway station to the hotel without wanting a shine, so the business was a good one.

I did not know of the poet's fantasy until a little group gathered in the patie of the hotel, apparently expecting something. Then the French landlord came and whispered to me that it was customary for the stranger to ask the poet to read some of his verses. At the same he indicated the proper individual, who, having collected from me the price of

the shine, was also waiting.

I politely asked him if he were not a poet. In reply he handed me a roll of foolscap covered with beautiful script of the old Spanish manuscripts. The pen-manship was perfect and so was the spacing of the verses. The manuscript

Native Fijians Tread Upon Redhot Stones, but Do Not Burn Their Bare Feet-Legend of How the Rite Originated - Scientists Unable to Explain the Strange Immunity From Fire.

Sectal Correspondence of The Star.



NATHEVA, Bangha Island. March 18, 1914. If the many strange rites and customs of the Fijians, none is more wonderful and inexplicable than that of the fire - walkers of Bangha, as the men who accomplish the remarkable feat of walking upon red-hot



GRUP OF TRICKS FIRE WAKENS

In a fine of the format of particles of many of its state of

When the stones were lifted and the population of the village were gathered around, ready to partake of the roasted flesh, a wonderful sight met their gaze. The supposed victim of the furnace heat turned over upon his bed of redhot coals and, rising to his full height, he walked out of the pit. He was unscathed.

He was taken before the wise man of

He was taken before the wise man of the tribe and there promised that forever after the descendants of the youth who had effected his capture should be immune from harm by fire. Having received this promise, the aged Fijian seer was taken out and strangled to death by his children, and the wise man of the sea feturaed to his watery kingdom. The young man who had brought about his capture ascended to the position of story-teller, and his descendants from that day to this save been able to tread redhot stones without burning their feel. (Copyright, 1914, by Walter C. Hornaday)

Skins as Bank Notes.

IN China, the first country to use bank notes, certain skins were once of such cash, passing from hand to hand in the same way as bank notes of the present day. . The negotiability of these skins was established in this way:

The Emperor Ou Ti, being in want of